

person or persons authorized by the lords of the said committee, with servants and workmen, at all reasonable times to enter into or upon their lands, and to establish and lay down upon such lands adjoining the line of such railway, a line of electrical telegraph for her Majesty's service, and to give to him and them every reasonable facility for laying down the same, and for using the same, for the purpose of receiving and sending messages on her Majesty's service, subject to such reasonable remuneration to the company as may be agreed upon between the company and the lords of the said committee, or in case of disagreement, as may be settled by arbitration: provided always, that, subject to a prior right of use thereof for the purposes of her Majesty, such telegraph may be used by the company, for the purposes of the railway, upon such terms as may be agreed upon between the parties, or, in the event of difference, may be settled by arbitration.

13. That where a line of electrical telegraphs shall have been established upon any railway by the company to whom such railway belongs, or by any company, partnership, person, or persons, otherwise than exclusively for her Majesty's service, or exclusively for the purposes of the railway, the use of such electrical telegraph, for the purpose of receiving and sending messages, shall, subject to the prior right of use thereof for the service of her Majesty and for the purposes of the company, and subject also to such equal charges, and to such reasonable regulations as may be from time to time made by the said railway company, be open for the sending and receiving of messages by all persons alike, without favour or preference.

14. And whereas by an Act passed in the 4th year of the reign of her Majesty, intitled "An Act to regulate Railways," power is given to the lords of the said committee to appoint any proper person or persons to inspect any railway, and the stations, works, and buildings, and the engines and carriages belonging thereto; and in order to carry the provisions of this Act into execution, it is expedient that the said power be extended; be it enacted, that the said power given to the lords of the said committee of appointing proper persons to inspect railways shall extend to authorize the appointment by the lords of the said committee of any proper person or persons, for such purposes of inspection, as are by the said Act authorized, and also for the purpose of enabling the lords of the said committee to carry the provisions of this and of the said Act, and of any general Act relating to railways, into execution; and that so much of the last-recited Act as provides that no person shall be eligible to the appointment as inspecting who shall, within one year of his appointment, have been a director, or have held any office of trust or profit under any railway company, shall be repealed: provided always, that no such person shall exercise any powers of interference in the affairs of the company.

15. Repealing provision of 3 and 4 Vict., c. 97. [Same as former clause 35.]

16. Board of Trade may direct prosecutions to prevent railway companies from contravening or exceeding the provisions of their Acts. [Same as former clause 36.]

17. Notice to be given to the company. Prosecutions to be under the sanction of the Board of Trade, and within one year after the offence. [Same as former clause 37.]

18. And whereas many railway companies have borrowed money in a manner unauthorized by their Acts of Incorporation or other Acts of Parliament relating to the said companies, upon the security of loan notes or other instruments purporting to give a security for the repayment of the principal sums borrowed at certain dates, and for the payment of interest thereon in the mean time: and whereas such loan notes or other securities issued otherwise than under the provision of some Act or Acts of Parliament have no legal validity, and it is expedient that the issue of such illegal securities should be stopped; but such loan notes or other securities having been issued and received in good faith as between the borrower and lender, and for the most part for the lawful purposes of the undertaking, and in ignorance of their legal invalidity, it is expedient to confirm such as have been already issued: be it enacted, that from and after the

passing of this Act, any railway company issuing any loan note or other negotiable or assignable instrument, purporting to bind the company as a legal security for money advanced to the said railway company otherwise than under the provisions of some Act or Acts of Parliament authorizing the said railway company to raise such money and to issue such security, shall for every such offence forfeit to her Majesty a sum equal to the sum for which such loan note or other instrument purports to be such security: provided always, that any company may renew any such loan note or other instrument issued by them prior to the passing of this Act, for any period or periods not exceeding five years from the passing of this Act.

19. That where any railway company, before the 12th day of July, 1844, shall have issued or contracted to issue any such loan notes, or other unauthorized instruments, the company may and shall pay off such loan notes or other instruments, as the same may fall due, subject as hereinafter provided; and until the same shall be so paid off, the said loan notes or other instruments shall entitle the holders thereof to the payment, by the company, of the principal sum and interest thereby agreed to be paid.

20. That a register of all such loan notes or other instruments shall be kept by the secretary, and such register shall be open, without fee or reward, at all reasonable times, to the inspection of any shareholder or auditor of the undertaking, and of every person interested in any such loan note or other instrument desirous of inspecting the same.

21. Remedy for recovery of tithe-rent charged on railway land. [Same as former clause 43.]

22. Communications to and from Board of Trade, service of notices, &c. [Same as former clause 44.]

23. Penalties. [Same as former clause 45.]

24. That where the word "railway" is used in this Act it shall be construed to extend to all railways constructed under the powers of any Act of Parliament; and when the words "passenger railway" are used in this Act, they shall be construed to extend to all railways constructed under the powers of any Act of Parliament upon which one-third or more of the gross annual revenue is derived from the conveyance of passengers by steam or other mechanical power; and whenever the word "company" is used in this Act it shall be construed to extend to include the proprietors for the time being of any such railway; and that where a different sense is not expressly declared, or does not appear by the context, every word importing the singular number or the masculine gender shall be taken to include females as well as males, and several persons and things as well as one person or thing.

25. That this Act may be amended or repealed by any Act to be passed in this Session of Parliament.

#### TIMBER—ITS TREATMENT AND USES.

BY JAMES WYLLSON.

(Continued from p. 410.)

56. *Acacia*.—Of this tree the most beautiful varieties are the weeping *acacia*, which is thornless, with large leaves, and the upright-growing *acacia*. The former, called the common, bastard, or *false acacia*, is a native of Virginia, where it is known as the *locust tree*: it is an elegant and highly ornamental tree, of rapid growth (for the first few years especially), and is of considerable size; having generally, for a few days in June a bloom of white flowers, sweetly perfumed, pendulous like the yellow ones of the *laburnum*, and hanging from long drooping branches. It has a luxuriant foliage of finely pointed leaves, of a brilliant green, and to grass its shade is less injurious than usual. The only drawback to its being extensively introduced in ornamental grounds in this country is the fragile nature of its lateral branches, or rather of their hold upon the stem for the first five or six years; for its shoots are large and plentiful; and, though proof against the biting severity of winter, liable to be broken off in tempestuous or blustering winds: on this account it requires much attention during the earlier growth, until it attains an altitude of ten or twelve feet; and to have the shoots nipped off short, to prevent their being strewn about;

otherwise it should be planted in a sheltered situation: indeed it has been recommended for a coppice plant on account of its quick growth and spread, as well as for the durability of the young poles for a variety of purposes—in the hop-garden for example. Once arrived at maturity, it merits regard as one of our finest ornamental trees; it seems to grow well in any kind of soil, but to greatest perfection in that which is of a light and sandy description.

57. Cobbett in later times drew the public attention to this tree, which, although it had been, on account of its beautiful appearance, cultivated in England two hundred years before, was, from his calling it by the American name, supposed to be a new tree, and as such with avidity sought after and extensively planted in England and Scotland. Its timber is highly esteemed for its durability in all situations, being almost incorruptible. In its unseasoned state it is little inferior to dry oak in the three qualities of strength, toughness, and stiffness; and when seasoned it has all of them in a very ample degree, and the first-mentioned to an undefined extent, which renders it admirably subservient to all those purposes for which oak is commonly selected. It is not yet known in England commensurately with its importance; but in America it is very much prized, and is extensively employed, as well in cabinet-making as in the more trying purposes about buildings, as fencing, &c. For the former it is valued there beyond all other woods. It is highly prized by millwrights for cogs, &c., and is generally used by shipwrights for trenails, for which it is excellently adapted: it is also reckoned well calculated for the axle-trees of wheeled vehicles. The wood makes excellent fuel, and the leaves afford wholesome fodder for cattle—horses and hogs seeming alike to relish it.

58. The wood is of a yellow colour, inclining to green, with a reddish tinge in its pores, or rather with brown veins; when green and unseasoned it is soft, but when dry it is very hard, requiring in working a degree of labour somewhat similar to ash or oak; it possesses the valuable property—rare amongst trees of quick growth—of its pith-wood turning, after the third year, into heartwood; thus enabling it to afford a body of solid timber in a much shorter period than the oak, chestnut, and many others, wherein that phenomenon does not take place before ten or fifteen years. When of an advanced age, its bark is of a thick and deeply-cleft character. The annual rings are distinct, one part being compact and the other porous; there are no larger transverse septa; and consequently no flowers; when dry it is tasteless and inodorous.

59. *SYCAMORE*, or great maple.—This tree is indigenous to Germany, and is a large, handsome, and hardy tree, of quick growth—more so than most other hard woods—especially in a sandy soil and exposed situation. It is also common, and thrives very well, in England, towards the north, and in Scotland; especially near the coast, where indeed it is said to flourish closer to the sea than any other tree, the salt spray appearing very slightly to injure it.

60. There are two maples, the small or common variety being a tree of but second-rate pretensions, and almost confined to the underwood or thicket; but the great maple is a tree of noble appearance, second to few even of the first rank in magnitude; yet the British is said to be somewhat inferior to the German grown. The leaves are palmate, with five lobes, unequally serrated; the foliage is thick, affording a shade almost impenetrable; it blooms early in profuse bunches; its tints in spring being tender, fresh, and glowing; while in summer it has a deep-green hue, in finest harmony with the massive and majestic form of the tree. The autumnal brown and reddish tints of its fading leaves produce a beautiful effect, which is said to characterize, to fullest perfection, an American landscape in that picturesque season; and which is enhanced by the diversified appearance of the trunk and main branches, from which the ashy bark peels off, giving them a patchy but pleasing character.

61. The colour of the wood is generally a dusky white, in some specimens inclining to brown, in others to yellow, but generally very fair and silky in young wood; the texture is